UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) PTOHMB201501 QUESTIONS & ANSWERS CROWD-SOURCED NON-PATENT LITERATURE HOSTING

1	What is the Government preferred method: a. Using a single prime contractor for hosting materials in a searchable database OR b. Using multiple contractors for hosting materials in a searchable database?	The Government does not have a preferred method. The purpose of this RFI is to gain information in order to formulate a preferred strategy.
2	Does the Government want vendors to make suggestions in regard to hosting by a prime or multiple contractors?	The Government is accepting recommendations for hosting by a single versus multiple contractors.
3	Will the contractor be in charge of development, implementation, and administration of the searchable database?	The contractor would be in charge of development, implementation, and administration of the searchable database.
4	What is the lifelong retention of each data that will be entered into the searchable public database?	Qualified firms shall have the capability to fund the ongoing operation of the infrastructure, including the maintenance of the materials and periodic updates for up to five (5) years, and perhaps longer, at no cost to the USPTO.
5	Does the Government already have an organization working on this project?	This is a new requirement.
6	Are there any incumbents or is this a new initiative?	This is a new requirement.
7	What is the expected date the Request for Proposal will be released?	The Government does not have an expected date for release of a Request for Proposal, nor has it determined if one will be released.
8	When is an award scheduled for this effort?	There is no schedule pertaining to this effort beyond this RFI.